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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the editor

Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement,
achievement, and success have no meaning.
-Benjamin Franklin

The 2013-2014 academic year will mark this journal's tenth year of publication. I was first acquainted with the journal as a student author. I wrote a piece of memoir for a creative-nonfiction writing course, was encouraged to submit it for publication, and was fortunate enough to be selected as one of the twelve authors published in the inaugural volume of *The Undergraduate Review* (2003-2004). The following year I was recruited as a student editor, one of three, and then one of one, when the other two students went on to other endeavors. The journal's "headquarters" was the Honors' Center in the Academic Achievement Center. I had use of a communal computer, the coffee table, and as much floor space as I could commandeer. It was a great space, but we never expected the near three-fold increase in submissions to Volume II. An official designer was sought and hired to lay out the beefy 25-article, 230-page issue. Special considerations were made for cover design, contributor photos, and featured artwork. That same year, the journal found a permanent home in the Office of Undergraduate Research in Maxwell Library.

The UR continued to grow, improve, and succeed, showcasing more of the finest scholarly and creative work offered by BSU students. The journal grew in girth as well as in scope, and more disciplines were represented with each iteration. Last year, a new two-reader, double-blind review process was piloted. Thanks to the dedication of over 65 faculty reviewers it was deemed a success, despite a whopping record of 52 submissions!

We're not done— still growing. We received a record-breaking number of submissions again this year. Over 65 BSU students submitted their work to the reviewers. Nearly every discipline on campus was represented. The research featured in this journal is some of the finest yet, testaments to the wealth of knowledge, experience, and talent of BSU students and faculty.

I am amazed by the tremendous growth, reach, and success this journal has achieved in such a short period of time.

STACY MOSKOS NISTENDIRK, MA
Managing Editor